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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An outage notification system for detecting a power outage at a customer location, the system comprising:

- 5 a first device operably coupled to a first circuit
 at the customer location;
 a second device operably coupled to a second circuit
 at the customer location;
 wherein the first device is operable to:
- 10 determine a status of power supply to the first
 circuit; and
 communicate the status of power supply to the
 first circuit to the second device;
- wherein the second device is operable to:
- 15 determine a status of power supply to the
 second circuit; and
 notify, via a network, a receiving system
 associated with the electric utility of a
 power outage at the customer location
- 20 based at least in part on the statuses of
 power supply to the first and second
 circuits.

2. The outage notification system of Claim 1,
further comprising the receiving system and wherein the
- 25 receiving system is operable to notify the electric
utility of the power outage when the statuses of power
supply to the first and second circuits indicate that
power supply is unavailable in both the first and second
circuits.

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3. The outage notification system of Claim 1,
further comprising the receiving system and wherein the
receiving system is operable to notify at least one
representative of a customer of the power outage when the
5 statuses of power supply to the first and second circuits
indicate that power supply is unavailable in at least one
of the first and second circuits.

4. The outage notification system of Claim 3,
wherein the receiving system is operable to notify the at
10 least one representative of the customer by transmitting
an email to at least one email address associated with
the at least one representative.

5. The outage notification system of Claim 3,
wherein the receiving system is operable to notify the at
15 least one representative of the customer by transmitting
a facsimile to at least one facsimile number associated
with the at least one representative.

6. The outage notification system of Claim 3,
wherein the receiving system is operable to notify the at
20 least one representative of the customer by transmitting
a voice message to at least one telephone number
associated with the at least one representative.

7. The outage notification system of Claim 3,
wherein the receiving system is operable to notify the at
25 least one representative of the customer by transmitting
a page to at least one pager number associated with the
at least one representative.

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8. The outage notification system of Claim 1,
further comprising a third device operably coupled to a
third circuit, the third device operable to:

5 determine a status of power supply to the third
 circuit; and
 communicate the status of power supply to the third
 circuit to the second device.

9. The outage notification system of Claim 8,
wherein the second device is operable to notify the
10 receiving system of a power outage at the customer
location based at least in part on the statuses of power
supply to the first, second and third circuits.

10. The outage notification system of Claim 9,
further comprising the receiving system and wherein the
15 receiving system is operable to notify the electric
utility of the power outage when the statuses of power
supply to the first, second and circuits indicate that
power supply is unavailable in each of the first, second
and third circuits.

20 11. The outage notification system of Claim 1,
wherein the first and second devices each include a
wireless transceiver and wherein the first device is
adapted to communicate the status of power supply to the
first circuit to the second device via the wireless
25 transceiver.

12. The outage notification system of Claim 1,
wherein the second device includes a network interface
operably coupled to the network for communicating with
the receiver system via the network.

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13. The outage notification system of Claim 12,
wherein the network includes a cable network.

14. The outage notification system of Claim 12,
wherein the network includes a telephone network.

5 15. The outage notification system of Claim 14,
wherein the receiver system includes integrated voice
response (IVR) system coupled to the telephone network
and wherein the second device is adapted to communicate
with the IVR system via the telephone network using at
10 least one dual-tone multifrequency (DTMF) signal.

16. The outage notification system of Claim 14,
wherein the receiver system includes a modem data server
coupled to the telephone network and wherein the network
interface includes a modem chipset for communicating with
15 the modem data server via the telephone network.

17. The outage notification system of Claim 1,
wherein the first device includes an alternating current
(AC) adaptor operably connectable to an outlet associated
with the first circuit and wherein the first device is
20 adapted to determine the status of power supply to the
first circuit based at least in part on an output of the
AC adaptor.

18. The outage notification system of Claim 17,
wherein the second device includes an alternating current
25 (AC) adaptor operably connectable to an outlet associated
with the second circuit and wherein the second device is
adapted to determine the status of power supply to the

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second circuit based at least in part on an output of the
AC adaptor of the second device.

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19. An outage detection device for detecting a power outage in a circuit comprising:

a circuit interface operably coupleable to the circuit;

5 means for determining a status of power supply to the circuit via the circuit interface; and
means for communicating the status of power supply to at least one other outage detection device.

20. The outage detection device of Claim 19,
10 wherein the circuit interface includes an alternating current (AC) adaptor operably coupleable to an outlet associated with the circuit.

21. The outage detection device of Claim 20,
wherein the means for determining a status of power
15 supply to the circuit includes a microcontroller operably coupled to the AC adaptor and operable to determine the status of the power supply of the circuit based at least in part on an output of the AC adaptor.

22. The outage detection device of Claim 20,
20 wherein the outage detection device is powered by an output of the AC adaptor when power supply to the circuit is available.

23. The outage detection device of Claim 22,
further comprising a battery for providing power to the
25 outage detection device when power supply to the circuit is unavailable.

24. The outage detection device of Claim 19,
wherein the means for communicating the status includes a

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wireless transceiver operable to transmit a signal
representative of the status of the power supply to the
circuit.

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25. An outage detection device for detecting a power outage at a customer location comprising:
a circuit interface operably coupleable to a first circuit at the customer location;
5 means for determining a status of power supply to the first circuit via the circuit interface;
means for receiving a status of power supply to a second circuit at the customer location; and
means for notifying a receiving system associated
10 with the electric utility of a power outage at the customer location via a network based at least in part on the status of the power supply to the first and second circuits.

26. The outage detection device of Claim 25,
15 wherein the circuit interface includes an alternating current (AC) adaptor operably coupleable to an outlet associated with the first circuit.

27. The outage detection device of Claim 26,
wherein the means for determining a status of power
20 supply to the first circuit includes a microcontroller operably coupled to the AC adaptor and operable to determine the status of the power supply to the first circuit based at least in part on an output of the AC adaptor.

25 28. The outage detection device of Claim 26,
wherein the outage detection device is powered by an output of the AC adaptor when power supply to the circuit is available.

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29. The outage detection device of Claim 28,
further comprising a battery for providing power to the
outage detection device when power supply to the circuit
is unavailable.

5 30. The outage detection device of Claim 29,
further comprising an indicator for indicating a status
of the battery.

31. The outage detection device of Claim 25,
wherein the means for receiving the status of the power
10 supply to the second circuit includes a wireless
transceiver operable to receive a signal representative
of the status of the power supply to the second circuit.

32. The outage detection device of Claim 31,
wherein the signal representative of the status of the
15 power supply to the second circuit is transmitted from a
second outage detection device.

33. The outage detection device of Claim 25,
wherein the network includes a cable network.

34. The outage detection device of Claim 25,
20 wherein the network includes a telephone network.

35. The outage detection device of Claim 34,
wherein the receiving system includes a modem data server
and wherein the means for notifying the electric utility
of a power outage includes a modem chipset adapted to
25 communicate with the modem data server via the telephone
network.

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36. The outage detection device of Claim 34,
wherein the receiving system includes an integrated voice
response (IVR) system and wherein the means for notifying
the electric utility of a power outage includes means for
5 communicating with the integrated voice response (IVR)
system via the telephone network using at least one dual-
tone multifrequency (DTMF) signal..

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37. A method for notifying a customer of a power outage at a customer location comprising:
determining a status of power supply to each of a plurality of circuits at the customer location
5 using a plurality of outage detection devices, each outage detection device operably coupled to a respective circuit of the plurality of circuits; and

10 notifying at least one representative of the customer of a power outage at the customer location when the statuses of power supply to the plurality of circuits indicate an unavailability of power supply to least one of the plurality of circuits.

15 38. The method of Claim 37, wherein notifying the at least one representative of the customer includes transmitting an email to at least one email address associated with the at least one representative.

20 39. The method of Claim 37, wherein notifying the at least one representative of the customer includes transmitting a facsimile to at least one facsimile number associated with the at least one representative.

25 40. The method of Claim 37, wherein notifying the at least one representative of the customer includes transmitting a voice message to at least one telephone number associated with the at least one representative.

41. The method of Claim 37, wherein notifying the at least one representative of the customer includes

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transmitting a page to at least one pager number
associated with the at least one representative.

42. The method of Claim 37, further comprising
notifying an electric utility of a power outage at the
5 customer location when the statuses of power supply to
the plurality of circuits indicate an unavailability of
power supply to each of the plurality of circuits.

43. The method of Claim 42, wherein notifying the
electric utility of a power outage at the customer
10 location includes communicating an indication of a power
outage to the electric utility via a network.

44. The method of Claim 43, wherein the network
includes a cable network.

45. The method of Claim 43, wherein the network
15 includes a telephone network.

46. The method of Claim 45, wherein the receiving
system includes an integrated voice response (IVR) system
and wherein communicating the indication of a power
outage to the electric utility includes communicating the
20 indication of a power outage to the IVR system via the
telephone network using at least one dual-tone
multifrequency (DTMF) signal.

47. The method of Claim 45, wherein the receiving
system includes a modem data server and wherein
25 communicating the indication of a power outage to the
electric utility includes communicating the indication of
a power outage to the modem data via the telephone
network.

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48. The method of Claim 37, wherein determining a status of power supply to each of a plurality of circuits at the customer location includes:

5 coupling, for each of the plurality of circuits, an alternating current (AC) adaptor to an outlet associated with the circuit; and

10 determining, for each of the plurality of circuits, an availability of power supply to the circuit based at least in part on an output of the AC adaptor coupled to the outlet associated with the circuit.

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49. A method for detecting a power outage a
customer location, the method comprising:

5 coupling an alternating current (AC) adaptor to an
 outlet associated with a first circuit at the
 customer location;
 determining a status of power supply to the first
 circuit based at least in part on an output of
 the AC adaptor;
10 receiving a status of power supply to a second
 circuit at the customer location; and
 communicating, via a network, the statuses of power
 supply to the first and second circuits to a
 receiving system connected to the network and
 associated with an electric utility.

15 50. The method of Claim 49, wherein the network
 includes a cable network.

 51. The method of Claim 49, wherein the network
 includes a telephone network.

20 52. The method of Claim 51, wherein the receiving
 system includes a modem data server connected to the
 telephone network.

 53. The method of Claim 51, wherein the receiving
 system includes an integrated voice response (IVR) system
25 connected to the telephone networks.